

TONOPAH DAILY BONANZA

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A MINORITY VOTE.

When the election returns came in last November with the enormous majority recorded in might have been assumed that everybody eligible to vote had cast a ballot on election day. It may seem astonishing, yet it is stated authoritatively that, taking the country as a whole, not half of those eligible to qualify as voters availed themselves of the privilege.

The south naturally would be expected to make the worst showing in this respect, because the election laws in that section of the country are the result of the primaries. However, it might be thought that northern states were out of line in South Carolina should cast his ballot just to make sure that nothing was "put over" on them in some of the so-called states of the late "solid south" was 20 per cent of the population white. But that is not all of it. Figures supplied show that only 10 per cent of those estimated eligible to qualification as voters of Tennessee did not go to the polls. Indiana appear to have a higher proportion of citizenship than the people of other states, since only 26 per cent of her possible voters abstained from the polls.

Do Americans not appreciate the value of the ballot? It is probable that those who engage in the most violent criticism of our government and the way it is conducted are among those who neglected to qualify and go to the polls on election day. We cannot have a real government of the people by the people and for the people if the election results come the action of less than half the people. It may be that the reason is not different from what it would be were there a full vote, but we cannot be sure about that. It is probable that the late admission of the women to suffrage last fall, in some cases too late for them to qualify as voters, augmented the stay at home vote, but that would by no means explain all the discrepancy between the vote cast and what it might have been.

It is not only a privilege, it is a solemn duty of the citizen to vote at elections. That so many neglect the duty is not encouraging.

THE WAR CRIMINAL TRIALS.

A correspondent who witnessed the first trial of the war criminals at Leipzig characterized the proceedings as a farce. This is shown, it is claimed in the fact that the trials have opened with "small fry" whose offenses at best were trivial in comparison with the crimes that roused the world against Germany. The correspondent compares the situation to trying a police court case before the supreme court of the United States.

Doubtless the reason these small offenders were put on trial first and found guilty was due to a desire to make a showing. It is possible that neither had influence and they may have been regarded as satisfactory sacrifices. Possibly the conviction of these two men is intended to lay a foundation for proof of willingness of the Germans to convict and punish war criminals. That once established, it may be found that the "proof" against the "higher-ups," those responsible for the gross brutalities, is insufficient to establish guilt. Of course the Germans could not convict one against whom there is insufficient evidence.

Were the Germans acting in entire good faith they would certainly have sought to establish it by bringing to trial one of the arch-criminals. They would have demonstrated their sincerity by making the example conspicuous Captains and sergeants may have been brutal, but it will not save the wound to punish a few such. The generals, the men whose orders transported Belgians into German slavery, others who fathered the atrocities that are too well authenticated to be doubted, should have been the ones first called to the bar.

It will require more than the convictions already secured to convince the world of German good faith.

POOR RICHARD vs. ROYALTY.

Benjamin Franklin, in his autobiography, tells of learning in his childhood the Biblical verse, "Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men," and he adds that his own diligence led to just such distinction. The lad who entered Philadelphia eating a roll in the street, carrying a bundle of clothes and looking generally so grotesque as to cause a girl who after-

wards became his wife—to laugh at him became an ambassador who could impress monarchs. That the author of Poor Richard doubtless would have thought it going too far if some one had told him this day would come when the manuscript of one of his brief essays would sell for more than the signature of Louis XIV, the "grand monarch" of France. Of course, after nearly a century and a half of American independence and in view of the stamp it bears since the world was it is only the natural thing to Americans that a Franklin manuscript should create more of a furore than the signature of a monarch. But we are thinking of the printer buy as he walked into Philadelphia in the days when this country was still under a king.

At any rate, when a parchment bearing the signature of Louis XIV brought only \$25 at an auction in Philadelphia last week, Franklin's essay on byzantinism brought \$270.

EINSTEIN ON DRESS.

In 1905, Einstein when in New York, the author says, just before sailing for Europe, asked to be excused from talking about the abstract subject which won him fame. He preferred to say a few words about American women.

"All classes of girls dress like European aristocrats," Professor Einstein said. "For instance, a girl passed me on the street who looked like a queen. She was dressed not only in the best style but in perfect taste. I thought she was the daughter of a millionaire, but she turned out to be a typist in this hotel."

Perhaps the seeming compliment of Professor Einstein is not so much of a compliment to the good judgment of American girls. It is evident that even well-paid typists and other girl workers must find it something of a burden to provide themselves with shelter and food and in addition clothes that make them "look like a queen."

PROPOSAL MADE TO TAKE OVER ALL PACKING HOUSES

(By Associated Press)

MONTEVIDEO, Uruguay, June 5.—A proposal that the governments of Uruguay, Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay take over by expropriation the packing houses in those countries has been made by a committee of the Uruguayan house of representatives.

Most of the packing houses in those countries are controlled by foreign capital, a large part of which is North American. It is estimated that the total cost of such an undertaking would be over \$100,000,000, and that the cost in Uruguay alone would be \$22,000,000.

The committee recommended that a convention of delegates of the four South American countries be held to arrange joint action and suggested the issuance of domestic and foreign loans to raise the funds necessary to acquire the packing houses.

It is proposed by the committee that the establishment be placed under control of directors comprising cattlemen and government officials in the respective countries. Another directorate would be formed of government representatives who would control the marketing of the products abroad and fix prices, acting jointly in all four nations.

HAVANA NEWSPAPER MEN GIVEN BUILDING

(By Associated Press)

HAVANA, Cuba, June 4.—Havana newspapermen will have a meeting place, built at a cost of \$40,000 by the national government, if a bill to be introduced by Representative Antonio Pardo Suarez at the next session of congress is passed.

The government, in 1919, ceded a plot of ground in one of the most valuable parts of the city as a site for the proposed clubhouse of the Association of Reporters of Havana, to which virtually every active newspaperman in the capital belongs.

Since "Pussyfoot" Johnson announced that he doesn't intend to die until England goes dry, they probably are doing considerable drinking over there to his health.

BAYARD DODGE



Bayard Dodge, son of Cleveland H. Dodge, New York financier and treasurer of the Near East relief, has been made director of the Near East relief activities in the Beirut Aleppo district of Syria. Mr. Dodge for seven years has been a member of the faculty at the American university, Beirut.

MOVEMENT NOW ON TO REMOVE BOOTH STATUE

(By Associated Press)

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., June 4.—A movement looking to the removal of a statue erected at Troy, Alabama, just after the Civil war to John Wilkes Booth, slayer of Abraham Lincoln, has been launched by Mrs. Cal D. Brooks, president of the Woman's League of Republican Voters of Alabama.

Mrs. Brooks declares that protests against the statue have come to the league from many sections of the country and she believes the time has come when such acts as placing the shaft "will be frowned upon by all good citizens of the south regardless of party affiliation."

An injury has been done the south as a whole, she says, and a wrong impression created north, east and west. In order that there may be "one harmonious union of interest north, east, west and south," Mrs. Brooks has called upon all political faiths of the south to join the league in plans to remove the Booth statue.

The shaft was erected by funds gathered by semi-public subscriptions at a time when partisanship was keen and when Booth was looked upon by some as a benefactor and hero.

The league claims that this was not the sentiment of the south at that time and that the surviving few who had a hand in the erection of the shaft will not object to its removal.

SINN FEINER MEETS HIS DEATH BRAVELY

(By Associated Press)

LIMERICK, Ireland, June 4.—Thomas Keane, sentenced to death by a court martial for improperly possessing arms and having taken part in an attack upon police at Singland, was executed today by a firing squad. He met his fate without a quiver.

DISAPPEARANCE OF MAN IS LAID TO WITCH DOCTORS

(By Associated Press)

HAVANA, Cuba, June 3.—Provincial authorities are conducting a searching investigation into the mysterious disappearance from his home on a ranch near Guantanamo of Candido Martinez, who, it is reported, may have been a victim of witch doctors. Three men and a woman are being held without bail for examination, one of them being known locally as a "healer" and seller of patent medicines. The aunt, his sole relative, says that his sister disappeared a year ago under similar circumstances.

Since most of them are that kind now, the purchase of a "coming out" gown is no longer much of an event.

Even if Carpentier gets what a lot of people think he will, his share of the gate receipts will no doubt be some compensation.

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